ACE Deployment Coming Soon!

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) will be deploying several new and exciting features to the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) during the month of October. The upcoming deployment is an important milestone in CBP's conversion to Agile development. Earlier this year, CBP converted its development efforts to the Agile Development Methodology to complete ACE core trade processing functionality in approximately three years. With the Agile method, the developers work side by side with system users and develop smaller chunks of operational capabilities in short, 13-week periods called increments. After several months of increment planning, software development, product testing, and working alongside ACE stakeholders, CBP is preparing to launch the first deployment of capabilities developed during the first two increments in the Agile development cycle. CBP also announced earlier this month three important mandatory dates that will lead the way for all future planned deployments and guide the trade community's transition to ACE. The mandatory dates are:

- May 1, 2015: Mandatory use of manifest in ACE – All electronic export and import manifest data must be transmitted via ACE.
- November 1, 2015: Mandatory use of cargo release in ACE – All data associated with the release of cargo, including Partner Government Agency (PGA) interactions transmitted via ACE.
- October 1, 2016: Mandatory use of all remaining ACE features.

With the implementation of CBP's first Agile deployment, scheduled for October 5, 2013, trade members will benefit from ACE Cargo Release, Entry Summary and Partner Government Agency Message Set capabilities. Trade members participating in the ACE Cargo Release pilot (also known as the Cargo Release/Simplified Entry pilot) will benefit from expanded pilot capabilities, including:

- Ability to process entries with in-bond information, split shipments and partial quantities. This is an expansion of the original pilot which was limited to entries with complete shipment quantities and a single, unlading, entry and arrival port.
- Ability for trade community to submit via EDI, corrections and cancellations to ACE Cargo Release entries, and for CBP to electronically accept or deny those changes. This capability will eliminate paper processing, expedite processing and save money for the government and the trade community.

In addition to the expansion of the ACE Cargo Release pilot expansion, CBP has begun to develop entry summary validations to improve the quality and accuracy of incoming ACE entry summary data. With the October deployment, ACE filers will benefit from Harbor Maintenance Fee and Classification validations for ACE entry summaries. As future development progresses, more complex validations will be added to the system.

CBP has developed the PGA Message Set that will enhance the collection and distribution of standard electronic data required by agencies participating in the International Trade Data System (ITDS) and allows for a true Single Window to Government. PGA Message Set pilots are scheduled to begin in October that will allow the trade community to submit:

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) data for vehicles and engines and ozone depleting substances, and
- Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) data for meat, poultry and eggs.

ACE will validate the data against EPA and FSIS reference tables, and send to EPA and FSIS, who will respond via ACE.

The October deployment will also include an upgrade of the software used to run ACE reports, which will result in changes in the user interface for ACE reports.

ACE Reports Interface Upgrade

On October 5, 2013, all ACE portal users will see a new look to the ACE reporting environment. Since 2006, ACE has used SAP Business Objects ®, a commercial off the shelf (COTS) web-based reporting tool to generate reports. CBP is implementing a Business Objects software upgrade required for continued product support. CBP will publish a user guide and provide webinars for impacted users prior to and after the upgrade is deployed in October. The ACE reports folder structure will remain the same and all saved reports will continue to be accessible after the upgrade is completed. CBP continues to track outstanding issues with ACE reports and they will be worked following this software upgrade.

Broker Employee Data Upload Capabilities

On August 17, 2013, CBP deployed new capabilities allowing brokers with ACE Secure Data Portal access to download a template to add, edit and delete multiple employee records in their account. A new *Broker Employee Data Upload Quick Reference Guide* (QRG) has been posted to CBP.gov providing instructions on adding individual employee data records or using a template that may be downloaded, saved to your computer and retrieved to make updates to broker employee data records simultaneously. Adding employee information in the ACE Portal will allow a broker to comply with their reporting obligations under 19 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 111. To access this new QRG, please visit the "ACE Training and Reference Guides" page of CBP.gov or you may download a copy directly by clicking on the document name above.

<u>Recent ACE Updates</u>

<u>New and Updated ACE Documentation Available</u>
Three new ACE documents have been posted to CBP.gov: the *ACE Development Schedule* which provides dates for completing development of all core trade processing capabilities in ACE; the *ACE Deployment Schedule* which provides information for planned deployments and three mandatory dates for use of ACE Features; and the *ACE Stakeholder Backlog* which provides a sequenced listing of all core trade processing features and a brief description of each feature. To access these new ACE documents, please visit the "What's New with ACE?" page of CBP.gov or you may download a copy directly by clicking on each of the document names above.

The July 2013 version of the *ACEopedia* is now available and provides current information on a variety of ACE Topics. To access this document, please visit the "What's New with ACE?" page of CBP.gov, and click on "Current Status of ACE" or you may download a copy directly by clicking on the document name above.

The *Getting Started with ACE* document has been posted to CBP.gov. This document provides a brief summary of trade capabilities available in ACE, instructions on how to apply for an ACE Secure Data Portal account, how to access the online web-based training, and how to become an ACE Entry Summary filing participant. To access this new ACE document, please visit the "What's New with ACE?" page of CBP.gov or you may download a copy directly by clicking on the document name above.

CBP has posted the *ACE Single Window Document Image System* info graphic to CBP.gov. This document provides information about the Document Image System (DIS) pilot, how to participate in DIS and aspects of the pilot expansion. To access this new ACE document, please visit the "ACE: Modernization Information Systems" page of CBP.gov or you may download a copy directly by clicking on the document name above.

The *ACE Single Window Document Image System Trade Scenarios* document has been posted to CBP.gov. This document lists six scenarios to assist trade community members to better understand how DIS can be used in their business operations. To access this new ACE document, please visit the "What's New with ACE?" page of CBP.gov or you may download a copy directly by clicking on the document name above.

Reminders of the Month

Revoking User Access

All Trade Account Owners and Proxy Trade Account Owners are reminded of the need to revoke user access privileges when an employee is no longer with the company. Failure to revoke access privileges could result in the user's continued access to company account information as an employee of another company. To revoke user access, please follow these simple steps below:

- Select the **Tools** tab
- Click on **User Access**
- Your list of users displays. Click on the user's **last name** link in the "Last Name" column
- A screen displays showing the user's Top Account information
- Click on the **Select and Continue** button
- The User Access portlet displays with the user's details. Select the **Continue** button
- The User Access portlet displays with additional options. Select the **Revoke Access** button

ACE Portal QuickLinks

All ACE users can add frequently visited websites or documents to the "QuickLinks" portlet inside the ACE Portal. The "QuickLinks" portlet allows users to quickly launch websites or documents similar to the favorites function in a web browser. You can create new links or import existing documents and add them to the list. To add a link or document, please follow these simple steps:

- Select the **Pencil** (Personalize) Icon
- Enter the "Name" and "URL" of the website to configure the "QuickLinks" portlet
- Click on the **[+] Add** button to add a link or 🗁**Import** to add an existing document
- At the end, click on the **OK** button

ACE Portal Reminders

All ACE users can add personal text to the "Reminders" portlet inside the home page of the ACE Portal. To add a reminder, please follow these simple steps:

- Select the **Pencil** (Personalize) Icon
- Click on the **[+] Add** button
- Enter the message in "Reminder Text" box
- Select a choice in the "Priority and Icon" drop-down menu

- Click on either **Due date**, **Do not show this reminder until** or **Stop showing this reminder after** and enter a due date(s) accordingly
- Click on **View Options** to choose appearance and sorting options
- At the end, click on the **OK** button

Please note: Reminders can be no longer than 240 characters and can only be viewed by the creator of the message.

Your Questions:

Why am I seeing a blue and yellow box inside my modified report?

When you modify a report, the system prompts you with a Java warning – security message. To avoid receiving this box when you modify a report, please click on the "No" button when the message displays.
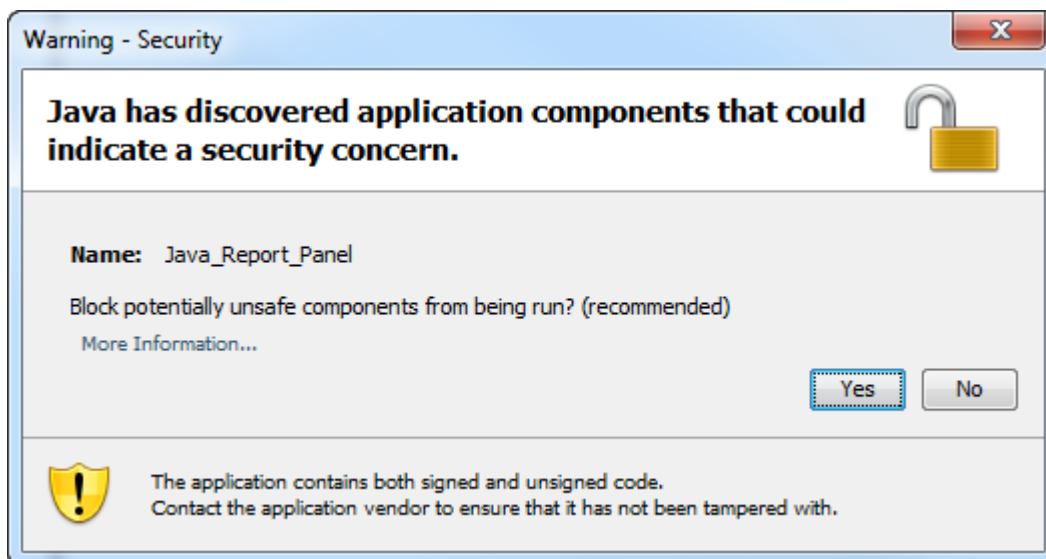
Is there a report that contains the liquidation date as a standard data element?

Yes, both AM 068 Entry summary report and ESM 7068 Entry Summary report (for ACE entry summaries) show the liquidation date as a standard data element. The liquidation date can also easily be added to any Account Management report.